services of a public relations firm to conduct activities on its behalf in the United States of America;

(b) whether such an arrangement entails reciprocal arrangements for the United States of America in India;

(c) the terms offered to the firm and the criteria to be applied for assessing its performance; and

(d) the annual expenditure likely to be incurred by Government on that account?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Government's decision to enage the services of a professional US firm was determined by the increasing propaganda activity of anti-India groups in the US. This decision was taken so as to strengthen Government's efforts to counter such propaganda effectively and to supplement the efforts of our Mission and Posts in the US to project India's viewpoint forcefully.

(b) No. Sir.

(c) The agreement between GOI and the law firm is for a period of six months, following which the performance of the firm will be reviewed before any further extension of the contract.

(d) the contract stipulates an all inclusive rate of US$ 46,000 per month to be paid by GOI to the law firm.

Talks with Chinese Leaders

239. SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister had discussed with the Chinese leaders the problem of terrorism supported by Pakistan in Kashmir and other parts of India; and

(b) if so, what the reaction of the Chinese authorities?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b) In its discussions with the Chinese Government, including during Prime Minister's visit to China in September, 1993. Government have consistently raised the issue of Pakistan's interference in India's internal affairs including support to terrorism in Kashmir and other parts of India. Chinese leaders have stated that they condemn terrorism in any form and would like all countries to honour their obligations in maintaining public order.

US House of Representatives Report about ISI

240. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will . the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the US House of Representatives report about the special Inter Services Intelligence force operating in Kashmir assisting Pak trained Kashmiri militants in escalating militancy in the State of Jamnui and Kashmir;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto stating whether the issue based on the report of the US House of Representatives has been taken up with US Government and the Islamic countries about active involvement of Pakistan in training and abetting the militants for subersive activities in the State of Jammu and Kashmir?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) to (c) Government are aware of the Report titled "The New Islamist International" of February 1, 1993 prepared by the Task Force on Terrorism and Unconventional Warfare set up by the US House of Representatives Republican Research Committee. The Section on Pakistan, Afghanistan and the

Export of Terrorism noted the assistance, as per an active ISI programme, to Kashmiri militants. According to the Report, Brig. (Retd.) Imtiaz, Head of the ISI Political Section developed a long-term programme called 'K-2' which aimed at "unifying and better coordinating the Kashmiri and Sikh subersion efforts" by "bringing under one umbrella Sikh and Kashmiri extremists and Muslim fundamentalists who would then intensify acts of violence in Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir and the Terai region of Uttar Pradesh".

The Report also notes that the ISI has established a force made up of Pakistani special forces, "dressed in Indian Army niforms to assist the Pakistan trained Kashmiris in dealing with major crises. Their Commander is .known is Col. Farooq. The first detachments of this ISI force infiltrated into Indian Kashmir in July 1991. By the fall, they had escalated their operations as well as improved the effectiveness of the local Islamist terrorists by the providing on-site training and professional support."

In the opinion of the Task Force, Pakistan is the source of large quantities of weapons in Kashmir. In the increase of support for terrorism in India, Islamabad has been able to find a task for the Pakistani and Afghan cadres that Islamabad had developed during the Afghan war and must now keep from meddling in Pakistani domestic politics. The Report lists main training camps for terrorists as being situated in Gohat, Larkana, Sangli, Sargodha, Cuttock, Muree, Sialkot and Lahore. Tha Task Force is not surprised that New Delhi considers the situation in Jammu & Kashmir as a "proxy war" with Pakistan.

The Report concludes that ISI's vast and highly experienced support infrastructure, tempered by years of assistance to "such regional armed struggles as those in Afghanistan and India, is increasingly expanding its operations to include the sponsoring of global Islamist terrorism."

Government have been continuously appraising all friendly Governments, including the US, of the continuous support in terms of equipment, arms and training by Pakistan to terrorists in India. Government have highlighted the situation of "proxy war" being waged by Pakistan in J&K. Government constantly monitor developments relating to India's national security and remain committed to take all necessary steps to safeguard India's territorial unity and integrity.

Fact Finding Mission to Kashmir

241. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Pakistan has proposed send a fact finding mission to Kashmir to assess the human right situation there;

(b) whether the said mission has visited Kashmir; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) The Government of Pakistan have informally circulated a draft resolution in the ongoing 50th session of the UN Commission on Human Rights that the UNCHR send a fact finding mission to J&K to investigate and report on the human rights situation there. The resolution has not yet been formally tabled or voted upon.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

म्यांमार के साथ व्यापार और राजनयिक सम्बन्ध

242. श्री विट्ठलराव माधवराव जाधव: क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पड़ोसी देश होने के बावजूद म्यांमार के साथ हमारा व्यापार और राजनयिक सम्बन्ध बहुत ही कम हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और